United Nations A/ES-10/631–S/2014/418

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
18 June 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 17 June 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I regret to have to draw your attention to the critical and tense situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem — the territory that constitutes the State of Palestine — as a result of Israel's relentless provocations and illegal actions against the Palestinian people. Israel continues to carry out grave violations of international law, including the killing and injury of Palestinian civilians by means of excessive force; military raids and mass arrests and detentions, including of children; illegal settlement construction and expansion; demolitions of Palestinian homes and properties, including those belonging to Palestinian Bedouin communities; extrajudicial executions; and incessant provocations and incitement by occupying forces against the Palestinian people and their holy places. These actions have continued and escalated in the recent period, further inflicting loss of life, loss of property and suffering on the Palestinian civilian population, and threatening to destabilize the already fragile situation on the ground.

First, I regret to have to call to your attention the critical and alarming situation of Palestinian political prisoners illegally imprisoned and detained by Israel, the occupying Power, which continues to be grave and warrants immediate attention. As was mentioned in my letter of 5 June 2014 (A/ES-10/630-S/2014/396), more than one hundred detainees and prisoners are participating in a hunger strike in peaceful protest of their captivity and the widespread abuses perpetrated against them by the occupying Power. Many of them, who have now been on a hunger strike for 55 days, are in serious or critical condition, including many Palestinians who have been held in solitary confinement, another unlawful form of punishment flagrantly used by Israel against Palestinian civilians in its prisons.

Serious efforts must be made by the international community to compel Israel to comply with international law, including humanitarian law, specifically article 76

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of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, which clearly defines the rights of protected persons faced with detention by an occupying Power. The international community must ensure that the occupying Power acts humanely towards the peaceful, non-violent prisoners on hunger strike and to cease all illegal practices, including torture and solitary confinement. We continue to call for their immediate release, along with all other Palestinians being unlawfully and arbitrarily imprisoned and detained. In this regard, we welcome the statement of the Secretary-General of the United Nations expressing concern over the deteriorating health of the Palestinian prisoners and detainees who have been on hunger strike and his call upon Israel to comply with its international human rights obligations in this regard.

I wish to turn your attention to the recent violations against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip. In this regard, the Israeli occupying forces have continued to carry out missile air strikes and artillery bombardment of civilian areas in the Gaza Strip in grave violation of international law, including the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, deliberately targeting and killing Palestinian civilians.

On Wednesday, 11 June 2014, Israeli occupying forces fired a missile at two passengers who were riding on a motorbike, instantly killing one passenger, Ahmad Al-Awour, 20 years old, and seriously injuring many others. Tragically, one of the injured was an innocent bystander in the vicinity of the attack, Ali Abd Al-Latif, 7 years old, who died on Saturday, 14 June, of wounds that he sustained as a result of the attack. Moreover, the military campaign and artillery bombardment of civilian areas in the Gaza Strip continued throughout the night of Monday, 16 June, injuring several more people and causing both destruction of civilian properties and the spread of panic and terror among the Palestinian population in the besieged Gaza Strip.

In the occupied West Bank, Israel, the occupying Power, has intensified its illegal measures and collective punishment directed against the Palestinian people, following an incident, on Friday, 13 June, where three settlers went missing while hitchhiking from the so-called settlement of Kfar Etzion, which is located between Jerusalem and Al-Khalil (Hebron). Since then, the occupying Power has embarked upon a violent and brutal campaign of repression, which has included mass arrests and mass closures throughout the occupied West Bank. In this regard, more than 200 Palestinians, including members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, have been arrested by the occupying forces. Furthermore, as a result of their excessive and indiscriminate use of force, Ahmad Al-Sabarin, 20 years old, was killed by occupying forces as the result of a gunshot wound to the chest during a military raid of Al-Jalazun refugee camp north of Ramallah, on Sunday, 15 June. The State of Palestine condemns all acts that result in the further destabilization of the situation on the ground and the escalation of violence, including measures of collective punishment and the use of force against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in connection with the three missing Israeli settlers. We call upon the international community to call upon the occupying Power to cease its actions of mass closures and mass arrests throughout the occupied West Bank and to cease all forms of collective punishment and human rights violations directed against the Palestinian people.

Moreover, while the Palestinian leadership is doing its utmost to prevent further escalation of the volatile situation on the ground, including helping with the search for the three missing Israeli settlers, it must be reiterated that Israel, the occupying Power, bears full responsibility for the safety and security of those of its civilians that it has illegally transferred to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in clear violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which is the law that governs military occupation.

I must also point to the recent and ongoing illegal actions and incitement thereof by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people, their land and their holy places, which are stoking religious sensitivities, particularly at Haram al-Sharif (the Noble Sanctuary), which houses the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque and Qubbat al-Sakhra (Dome of the Rock). Following Friday prayer, on 13 June, Israeli occupying forces stormed the compound, attacking Palestinian worshippers with stun grenades, pepper gas and rubber-coated steel bullets, and beat worshippers with batons, as well as injured ambulance crews and journalists. Shrapnel from the occupying forces' stun grenades injured 28 Palestinians, including elderly worshippers. We continue to caution that further provocations will only inflame already high tensions and anger among the Palestinian population, posing the threat of a complete destabilization of the situation on the ground.

In addition to the above, Israel has also persisted in continuing with its construction of settlements and the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Just this past week, Israel, the occupying Power, proceeded with plans to further expand settlements by constructing 1,083 settlement units in the occupied West Bank, including in occupied East Jerusalem. This latest provocative and illegal plan comes on the heels of the announcement made last week of the construction and expansion of an additional 1,500 settlement units. We condemn all such provocative and illegal colonization measures, which are physically destroying the basis for the two-State solution, and we reiterate the demand that Israel completely cease all settlement activities and comply with the relevant provisions of international law and United Nations resolutions. We must reiterate the fact that such Israeli policies and actions, systematically and wilfully pursued, are illegal and constitute war crimes under the Fourth Geneva Convention and under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Moreover, in connection with Israel's settlement campaign, we condemn the intensification of measures taken against Palestinian Bedouin communities in the central occupied West Bank, which are being targeted by the occupying Power in order that it may carry out plans for further settlement construction. We call upon the international community to oblige the occupying Power to put a halt to all Israeli measures against the Palestinian Bedouin communities, including by ending its demolition of structures, and confiscation of their property, as well as their forced eviction and forced transfer, which are prohibited under international humanitarian law and human rights law.

The above-mentioned violations compel the Palestinian leadership to call upon the international community, including the Security Council, to uphold the rule of law and human rights and demand that Israel, the occupying Power, cease its military aggression against the Palestinian people, respect their human rights, and comply with all of its legal obligations under international law. The international

community cannot continue absolving Israel of its responsibility for these violations and of its obligations under international law as an occupying Power. The international community must send forthwith the strong, unequivocal message that it rejects Israel's illegal policies, intransigence and constant attempts to completely sabotage any real chance that still exists to realize the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 497 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 5 June 2014 (A/ES-10/630-S/2014/396) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/632–S/2014/429

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
23 June 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 20 June 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

The situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, continues to deteriorate and tensions continue to rise as a result of provocations and illegal actions by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people. Of grave concern in particular at this time is the precarious condition of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails and detention centres and, more specifically, Palestinian prisoners who have been on a prolonged hunger strike in an expression of collective non-violent protest against the abusive treatment and deplorable conditions they are being subjected to in Israel's jails and detention centres and in peaceful demand for their human rights.

Today, 20 June 2014, marks the fifty-seventh day in which hundreds of Palestinian prisoners have been on a hunger strike in protest of their captivity by Israel, the occupying Power, under administrative detention, whereby they are being held without charge and without access to due process of the law or fair trial. More than 60 Palestinian prisoners and detainees have been hospitalized and many are in critical condition, including 9 who are suffering from a dropped heartbeat and 20 others who are suffering from internal bleeding. Moreover, in a move that is sure to inflame already heightened tensions, a legislative amendment on force-feeding, which also contains a new provision to allow for the sedation of prisoners who refuse force-feeding, will be presented before the Israeli Knesset on Monday, 23 June. Force-feeding contravenes international law and is universally considered to be a form of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. The practice is not only completely unsuitable for saving lives but is tantamount to torture, and Israel must be compelled to drop such a bill, which is in complete contravention of international standards.

We reiterate that Israel, the occupying Power, is fully responsible for the well-being, safety and lives of the thousands of Palestinians in its captivity, including the

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hundreds who are on hunger strike. The international community is duty-bound to ensure that the occupying Power complies with all its legal obligations regarding its treatment of all the Palestinian prisoners and detainees it is holding, including children, and Israel must be held accountable for its ill-treatment of and violations against the thousands of Palestinians it holds captive. Israel, the occupying Power, cannot be allowed to remain immune from the provisions of international humanitarian and human rights law governing such situations. If the occupying Power continues to reject the demands for respect for international law, then measures aimed at ensuring an end to the violations and ensuring that the rule of law prevails must be undertaken in response. We continue to call for an end to Israel's unlawful practices and, in particular, to cease the use of administrative detention to hold Palestinian civilians captive. We also continue to call for their immediate release, along with all other Palestinians being unlawfully and arbitrarily imprisoned and detained.

Moreover, I regret to inform you that since my last letter dated 17 June 2014 (A/ES-10/631-S/2014/418), the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, continues to deteriorate as a result of the repressive and illegal measures that continue to be undertaken by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people. In connection with the three Israeli settlers who went missing on Friday, 13 June while they were hitchhiking from the so-called settlement of Kfar Etzion, which is located between Jerusalem and Al-Khalil (Hebron), the Israeli occupying forces have escalated their aggression and have continued to carry out measures of collective punishment against the Palestinian people. In the Gaza Strip, Israeli occupying forces have continued to carry out air strikes, injuring more and more Palestinians and causing great fear and distress among the population, who continue to suffer from deplorable living conditions as a result of Israel's inhumane, unlawful blockade.

Furthermore, in the West Bank, violent raids by the occupying forces into Palestinian towns and villages continue. In fact, more than 1,150 locations, which include homes, offices and schools, have been violently raided by the Israeli occupying forces since the three Israeli settlers went missing. The number of Palestinians who have now been detained has risen to 330, which includes 24 members of the Palestinian Legislative Council. It should be noted that many of the Palestinians who have been detained by the occupying forces were Palestinians who were released in a prisoner swap agreement in 2011. Moreover, in addition to the above measures of collective punishment, Israeli occupying forces have also continued to use excessive and indiscriminate force against the Palestinian civilian population. In this regard, today, Friday, 20 June, Mustafa Hosni Aslan, 22 years, was shot in the head and killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Qalandiya refugee camp south of Ramallah. Earlier today, Mahmoud Jihad Muhammad Dudeen, 14 years old, was shot in the chest and killed by Israeli occupying forces in the southern West Bank city of Dura, near Al-Khalil (Hebron). Mahmoud Dudeen was the third Palestinian to be killed by Israeli occupying forces in connection with the three missing Israeli settlers. Scores of Palestinians have also been injured as a result of Israeli aggression over the past week.

We reiterate our total condemnation of all of these illegal actions and crimes being perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which are dramatically raising tensions and destabilizing the situation on the ground. We call once again on the international

community and specifically on the Security Council to act collectively to address this crisis to prevent its exacerbation and to bring an end to all of the human rights violations against the Palestinian people by the occupying Power, including all of its measures of collective punishment. The international community, including the Security Council, cannot continue to fail to act to hold Israel accountable for its flagrant breaches of the law. Such continued failure by the international community has only further emboldened the occupying Power and bolstered its impunity, which has resulted in the continuation of the above-mentioned Israeli violations and thus the failure to secure a just and lasting peace.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 498 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 17 June 2014 (A/ES-10/631-S/2014/418) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter circulated as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/633–S/2014/455

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
1 July 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 30 June 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I regret to inform you that Israel is escalating its military assaults and human rights violations against the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied State of Palestine. In the past several days, air strikes and excessive force by the occupying Power have caused death and injury to more Palestinian civilians, including children, especially in the besieged Gaza Strip. It should be stated that the intensification of Israel's aggression against the Occupied State of Palestine threatens to further destabilize the situation on the ground and to fully ignite yet another round of deadly violence. This demands the attention of the international community, particularly the Security Council, which is duty-bound to act to maintain international peace and security.

For the past two weeks, on a nearly nightly basis, the Israeli occupying forces have carried out missile air strikes and artillery bombardment of civilian areas in the Gaza Strip, in grave violation of international law, including the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949. In this regard, on 29 June 2014, on the first day of the holy month of Ramadan, Israeli tanks bombarded the town of Al Qarara, located north-east of Khan Yunis in southern Gaza Strip, killing Mohammed Zayed Obeid and wounding three others, including one who is in critical condition. This latest military attack came on the heels of an Israeli attack that took place on Friday, 27 June 2014, in which Israeli occupying forces carried out an extrajudicial execution and fired rockets at a civilian vehicle driving near Al Shatei camp, west of the city of Gaza. The air strike killed two Palestinians, Mohammed al-Faseeh, 23, and Osama al-Hassumi, 26, and wounded several others. Also on Friday, Israeli tank fire injured five Palestinians, including two children, two women and two men in their 20s in the town of Khuzaa', east of Khan Yunis. In addition to the killing and injury of Palestinians, the above military attacks by occupying forces caused extensive damage to Palestinian

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properties throughout the Gaza Strip, with civilian infrastructure bearing the brunt of the attacks.

I must also draw your attention to the simultaneous escalation of Israeli military operations throughout the West Bank, signaling a deliberate Israeli attempt to intensify tensions and confrontations on all fronts. In this regard, measures of collective punishment, such as the violent raids into Palestinian towns and villages and mass arrests and detention of Palestinian civilians, many of them youth, have continued, further fuelling tensions and resentment among the Palestinian population against the oppressive policies of the occupying Power. The number of Palestinians who have now been detained by the occupying Power has risen to over 575, which includes 24 members of the Palestinian Legislative Council.

Moreover, in addition to the above-mentioned measures of collective punishment, Israeli occupying forces have also continued to use excessive and indiscriminate force against the Palestinian civilian population. The rising death toll includes the death of Sakhr Burhan Daraghmeh, 18, who was killed while tending his sheep near Al Maleh, in the northern Jordan Valley, on Saturday, 21 June. Also on that Saturday, an elderly Palestinian man died of heart attack when Israeli occupying forces raided his house in the village of Hares, north of Salfit in the West Bank. Israeli occupying forces refused to allow family members to evacuate him to the hospital, where he could have received life-saving medical treatment. Moreover, on Sunday, 22 June, Israeli occupying forces killed Mohammed Mahmoud al-Toraifi, 30, during an Israeli incursion into the West Bank city of Ramallah. On that same day, Ahmed Sa'eed Khaled, 27, was also killed during an Israeli incursion into Al Ain camp, east of Nablus, on his way to perform the Al Fajr (dawn) prayer. When Ahmed refused to return back to his home, Israeli occupying forces shot him several times from point-blank range.

The Palestinian leadership condemns in the strongest terms these Israeli military attacks and the measures of collective punishment by the occupying Power against the Palestinian civilian population. We call on the international community, including the Security Council, to hold Israel, the occupying Power, accountable for these crimes of aggression and brutality, including deliberate reprisals and collective punishment, against the Palestinian people and to bring to an immediate end this renewed cycle of violence. We also reiterate the demand for the immediate and full lifting of the inhumane, illegal and immoral blockade imposed by Israel, the occupying Power, on the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, which amounts to the collective punishment of 1.7 million people. This blockade, coupled with the constant death, destruction and trauma inflicted by the occupying Power, has gravely compounded their suffering and misery. The international community, particularly the Security Council, cannot continue to stand idly by while the law is breached and international peace and security are threatened. In this regard, serious, timely efforts are needed to uphold the legal obligation to protect the Palestinian people under occupation and to ensure respect of the law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention.

This letter is in follow-up to our 499 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 20 June 2014 (A/ES-10/632-S/2014/429), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against

the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine
to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/634–S/2014/468

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
3 July 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 2 July 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I must once again call your urgent attention to the dangerous escalation and rising tensions on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, due to the ongoing Israeli aggression and inhumane acts against the Palestinian civilian population.

In grave breach of international law, including its obligations as an occupying Power in accordance with the Fourth Geneva Convention, Israel continues to deliberately launch military raids and attacks, including air strikes, against Palestinian civilian areas, causing loss of life, injury and destruction of civilian homes and properties, and continues to recklessly incite further violence against the Palestinian civilians, resulting in intensifying acts of terror and racist hate crimes by illegal Israeli settlers as well as other Israeli extremists against Palestinian civilians, including children. The international community, especially the Security Council, cannot remain silent as Israel and its terrorist settlers continue with their aggression, wreaking death, destruction and terror on the Palestinian people under its occupation.

In this regard, I regret to inform you that, yesterday, 1 July 2014, at approximately 3.45 a.m. (Palestine time) in the town of Beit Hanina in occupied East Jerusalem, a 16-year-old boy, Mohammed Hussein Abu Khdeir, who was sitting on a wall outside the mosque waiting for dawn prayers that start the daily fast during the holy month of Ramadan, was abducted and later brutally murdered by Israeli extremists. According to witnesses and surveillance cameras, two Israeli settlers pulled up in a grey car and violently forced young Mohammed into their car. A couple of hours later, the body of Mohammed was found in a forested area of the city, his small body burned and showing signs of severe violence perpetrated against him.

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The Palestinian Government condemns in the strongest terms the kidnapping, torture and burning of Mohammed Abu Khdeir by terrorist Israeli settlers. We hold the Israeli Government responsible for this atrocious crime and the culture of impunity in which Israeli terrorist settlers have so vilely and continuously assaulted Palestinian civilians and properties. We call on the international community, in particular the Security Council, to clearly and unequivocally condemn the brutal kidnapping and killing of Mohammed.

Moreover, the Security Council must call on Israel, the occupying Power, to act immediately and tangibly to cease all violations against the Palestinian people, including all acts of collective punishment and reprisals, including incitement of reprisals, which are prohibited by the Fourth Geneva Convention. The Security Council has a responsibility to contribute to the de-escalation of this grave situation, including by demonstrating its commitment to universal human rights by publicly condemning this latest crime by Israeli terrorist settlers, calling for respect of international law and calling for restraint. Israel, the occupying Power, which bears full responsibility for placing its civilians on Occupied Palestinian Territory, in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, must also unequivocally condemn this heinous act and hold the perpetrators accountable and bring them to justice.

The killing of Mohammed is not the only attempt by Israeli terrorist settlers to cause death and injury to the unprotected Palestinian civilian population. In this regard, just 24 hours before Mohammed's brutal killing, terrorist settlers kidnapped and assaulted 8-year-old Musa Zalom in Jerusalem, who was saved by Palestinian civilians in the neighbourhood. Also, 9-year-old Sanabel Al-Tous remains in critical condition after an Israeli settler ran her over with his car and threw her little body on the side of the road, leaving her there to die.

Such horrific acts by terrorist Israeli settlers come amidst an outburst of virulent anti-Arab racism in Israel, fuelled by the direct incitement and declarations by Israeli government officials against the Palestinian people. In this connection, I must draw your attention to the fact that hundreds of Israelis rampaged through the streets of Jerusalem yesterday, violently assaulting at least five Palestinians, while chanting hateful and violent slogans such as "death to Arabs". At least two other Palestinians were physically assaulted by Israelis in hate crime incidents in other parts of Jerusalem in this escalating environment of violence.

Moreover, Israeli occupying forces have been relentlessly carrying out vicious acts of military aggression against the Palestinian population, committing wide-scale violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, including blatant measures of collective punishment. Yesterday, 1 July 2014, in the early morning hours, Israeli warplanes bombed more than 35 so-called "targets" in the besieged Gaza Strip, where more than 1.7 million Palestinians have been imprisoned for eight years under Israel's illegal, immoral blockade. This latest barrage of airstrikes caused destruction to civilian property and infrastructure and intensified fear and panic among the Palestinian civilian population, where more than 50 per cent are children under 18 years of age.

The occupying forces also continued apace with the military aggression against the Palestinian civilians in the occupied West Bank. Israeli occupying forces demolished the family homes belonging to the two Palestinians whom Israel has accused of allegedly carrying out the kidnapping and killing of three Israeli settlers.

All such measures taken by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied State of Palestine are clearly a part of the collective punishment policy and reprisals against Palestinian civilians in violation of article 33 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which stipulates: "No protected person may be punished for an offence he or she has not personally committed."

The grave situation before us requires urgent attention and serious action by the international community before the situation on the ground further destabilizes and unravels. The Security Council must uphold its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. It must reaffirm its rejection of all Israel's criminal acts and illegal, violent and provocative actions taken against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Moreover, it must be recalled that the Palestinian people who are so gravely suffering under Israel's more than 47-year military occupation are entitled to protection under international humanitarian law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention. We thus reiterate that the international community, including the Security Council, cannot remain silent or continue only expressing regret or disappointment with Israel's violations. It is the responsibility of the international community to put an end to these crimes by the occupying Power and this begins with holding Israel accountable for all of its actions in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions. The Palestinian people cannot remain the exception to this responsibility to protect civilians from such atrocities and flagrant breaches of the law.

This letter is in follow-up to our 500 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 30 June 2014 (A/ES-10/633-S/2014/455) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/635–S/2014/471

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
7 July 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 3 July 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I regret to inform you that since our letter of yesterday, 2 July 2014, Israel, the occupying Power, has continued with its campaign of military aggression against the Palestinian people, assaulting the Gaza Strip with more air strikes, causing more death and injury to Palestinian civilians, and persisting with excessive use of lethal force against Palestinians, including children, in large-scale military raids and attacks against civilian protesters throughout the West Bank, including in East Jerusalem. Tensions continue to rise dramatically as a result of the aggressions being perpetrated by the occupying forces and settlers against the Palestinian civilian population, as well as the constant incitement to violence and terror against Palestinians by Israeli government officials, settlers and other extremists.

Yesterday, 2 July, Israeli occupying forces killed 20-year-old Yousef Ibrahim Ahmed Ibn Gharra, who was returning to his home in the Jenin refugee camp after buying foodstuffs for his family. The killing of Yousef by three bullets to the heart, left shoulder and forearm by a so-called Israeli undercover unit, brings the total number of Palestinians killed since 12 June 2014 to 12, including a small child.

The extremely fragile situation in the Occupied State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem, is worsening and risks further destabilization due to this continuing Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people. We renew our call upon the international community, particularly the Security Council, to uphold its obligations under the Charter and under international law, including international humanitarian law, as it pertains to the rights and protection of civilians in armed conflict, including foreign occupation. We reiterate that the Palestinian civilian population under Israel's occupation must be guaranteed protection and cannot remain the exception to the responsibility to protect civilians from atrocities and flagrant breaches of the law.

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In addition, I write today to convey the Palestinian leadership's grave concern and total condemnation of Israeli incitement to violence and terror against the Palestinian people. Such reckless behaviour, deliberately aimed at terrorizing and causing harm to our people, is seriously heightening tensions and risks the further unravelling of the already fragile situation.

In this regard, I must draw attention to the Israeli social media campaigns calling for the murder of Palestinians. One of these social media campaigns posted on Facebook was entitled "The people of Israel demand vengeance", which gained over 36,000 "likes" in just under two days before being removed. The page had numerous photos of Israeli soldiers, among them those currently serving in the occupying forces in Palestine, who posted pictures of themselves with their weapons demanding revenge with comments that included, but were not limited to, "blood-blood we want revenge", "let us mow them down", "we want blood", and "hating Arabs is not racism, it's values!". It should be noted that, just days prior to this latest racist online campaign, the Israeli prime minister himself was quoted reciting a verse from an Israeli poem, stating: *"such vengeance for blood of babe and maiden hath yet to be wrought by Satan ..."*, a verse interpreted today as promoting fierce revenge for murder.

It should be placed on record that this is not the first time Israelis have used social media outlets to spew repugnant racist remarks and incite violence and terror against the occupied Palestinian population. In April, a Facebook page created to support an Israeli soldier who aimed his gun at Palestinian teenagers garnered 60,000 "likes". Such incitement on social media highlights the dangerous, violent and racist sentiment harboured by many Israelis towards Palestinians, a sentiment that is promoted by some of Israel's governmental officials, who actively foster a toxic atmosphere by condoning and encouraging violence against Palestinians and repeatedly making declarations to incite. It is also fostered by the fact that Israeli officials continue to fail to bring to justice the perpetrators of violence and hate crimes against Palestinians.

The continuation of such racist, hate-filled actions will only worsen the situation on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, further stoking anger and rage and deepening mistrust. We call upon the international community to strongly condemn all forms of Israeli incitement as well as the hate crimes that continue to be perpetrated against Palestinian civilians, and compel Israel to take swift action against the perpetrators and bring them to justice. We reiterate that the current dangerous situation requires urgent attention and serious action by the international community, including the Security Council, in accordance with its responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security, before it deteriorates further with untold consequences.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 501 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 2 July 2014 (A/ES-10/634-S/2014/468) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of
the State of Palestine to the United Nations